

Message Text

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PAGE 01 FRANKF 03315 291206Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /013 W
-----301355Z 049105 /44
R 291104Z APR 77
FM AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
TO USIA WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7963
AMEMBASSY BONN

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PERSONAL FOR AMBASSADOR REINHARDT FROM CONSUL GENERAL
LEHMANN

BONN FOR AMBASSADOR STOESSEL

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AMGT
SUBJECT: SAARBRUECKEN GERMAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE

1. I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT DESPITE REPRESENTATIONS
BY OURSELVES AND THE EMBASSY USIA HAS NEVERTHELESS
DECIDED TO ABOLISH THE AMERICAN FSIO POSITION FOR
THE SAARBRUECKEN GAI. I WOULD REALLY APPRECIATE IT
IF YOU COULD HAVE A PERSONAL LOOK AT WHAT QUITE
CLEARLY SEEMS TO BE A VERY ILL-CONSIDERED DECISION
QUITE OUT OF LINE WITH THE CONCEPTS YOU SO WELL
EXPRESSED IN YOUR REMARKS TO THE USIA STAFF ON
MARCH 30 WHICH I HAVE READ WITH GREAT INTEREST.

2. THE MAIN SUBSTANTIVE REASONS WHY WE HERE HAVE
FELT VERY STRONGLY THAT AN AMERICAN POSITION EITHER
AS AN FSIO OR AN AMERICAN CONTRACT EMPLOYEE SHOULD
BE RETAINED HAVE BEEN SPELLED OUT IN A LETTER I WROTE
TO ALEX KLIEFORTH ON DECEMBER 2, 1976 AND WHICH
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KLIEFORTH IN TURN FORWARDED TO YOUR ASSISTANT
DIRECTOR FOR EUROPE. SINCE THESE LETTERS ARE AVAILABLE IN
WASHINGTON I WILL NOT REPEAT THEIR CONTENT HERE.

3. APART FROM THE REASONS STATED IN THE ABOVE
CORRESPONDENCE A WHOLE SERIES OF
GERMAN FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO WHAT

IS REALITY IS AN AMERICAN INFORMATION EFFORT IS
CONTINGENT ON THE PRESENCE OF AN AMERICAN IN THE
JOB AS INSTITUTE DIRECTOR. THESE GERMAN
CONTRIBUTIONS PLANNED ON AN ANNUAL RECURRENT BASIS
AMOUNT TO:

SAARLAND GOVERNMENT DM 60,000
GERMAN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DM 35,000
CIT OF SAARBRUECKEN DM 27,500
OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS DM 17,500
TOTAL DM 140,000

DUE TO A CONCERTED DRIVE BY THE OFFICE OF THE
SAARLAND'S PRIME MINISTER THE "OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS"
ITEM WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CONSIDERABLE EXCEED DM 17,500
SO THAT THE TOTAL GERMAN CONTRIBUTION IS LIKELY TO
BE DM 175,000 ANNUALLY ON A RECURRENT BASIS WHICH
ROUGHLY FIGURES TO ABOUT \$73,000 A YEAR. ALL
THIS OR AT LEAST 90 PERCENT OF IT IS CONTINGENT
ON OUR PROVIDING ONE AMERICAN BODY WHETHER HE BE
AN FSIO OR A CONTRACT EMPLOYEE. TO PUT IT
ANOTHER WAY EVERY DOLLAR OF INVESTMENT BY THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT GENERATES ABOUT TWO DOLLARS FROM
GERMAN RESOURCES FOR WHAT I REPEAT IS AN AMERICAN
INFORMATION EFFORT. IT IS SIMPLY VERY BAD BUSINESS
TO GIVE UP WHAT OBVIOUSLY IS A GOOD DEAL AND REALLY
QUITE INCOMPREHENSIBLE HOW IN LIGHT OF THESE FACTS
THE USIA STAFF NOT ONLY INSISTS ON CANCELLING THE
FSIO SLOT BUT ALSO CONCLUDES THAT "WE DO NOT SEE
ANY JUSTIFICATION....TO EXPEND \$30,000 OR MORE
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ANNUALLY TO ENABLE THE GAI TO EMPLOY AN AMERICAN
DIRECTOR UNDER CONTRACT."

5. I AM NOT UNMINDFUL OF THE BUDGETARY PROBLEMS
WHICH FACT USIA AND OTHERS BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE
THAT THE SOLUTION LIES IN PROGRESSIVELY TAKING AWAY
FROM THE FRONT LINE OF OUR FIELD EFFORT WHILE
LEAVING OUR MASSIVE BUREAUCRATIC SUPER STRUCTURES
INTACT OR, MORE LIKELY, EVEN HAVING THEM GROW IN
THE NAME OF "CENTRALIZATION" OR SOME OTHER FETISH
DEEMED TO HAVE SOME SORT OF MYSTIC UNIVERSAL MERIT
IRRESPECTIVE OF CIRCUMSTANCES. WE WOULD BE VERY
GRATEFUL FOR YOUR REVIEW AND HELP. REGARDS. LEHMANN

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 29-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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